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POLES PRESS TRADE ADVANTAGES

DRIVES HARD BARGAIN IN TRADE WITH SWEDEN -- Zurich, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 6 May 51

Stockholm, 2 May -- As a result of negotiations in April 1951, the debit balance of approximately 100 million kronor which Sweden is expected to incur in 1951 because of the increase in the price of Polish coal, is to be equalized by Swedish payments in pounds sterling.

The negotiations also dealt with Sweden's option which terminates in the fall of 1951, for 500,000 additional tons of coal. Polish shipments of this latter quantity were made dependent on exchange shipments by Sweden of highly strategic materials, notably iron ore. Poland demanded at least 1.4 million tons of Swedish iron ore in trade negotiations between the two countries in the latter part of 1950. However, Sweden could only commit herself for 700,000 tons of ore, plus a conditional 100,000 tons.

In April 1951, Sweden was not in a position to meet Polish iron-ore requirements in full, but agreed to ship 50,000 tons of iron ore and 1,500 tons of wood pulp, and to pay the balance in British pounds, in exchange for 150,000 tons of coal from Poland. Sweden, therefore, was unable to take advantage of her option on 500,000 tons of Polish coal and is now obliged to import the remainder of her requirements from Western countries.

The outcome of the new Warsaw negotiations is considered unsatisfactory to Sweden for two reasons: Poland's price policy has, in effect, nullified Sweden's option on additional coal imports; and commitments under the long-range credit agreement between Sweden and Poland have an unfavorable effect on Swedish trade because, while Sweden, under the agreement, is to furnish largely valuable capital goods under fixed, long-term contracts, the Poles are in a position to raise their coal prices at will. Moreover, goods shipped by Sweden on credit cannot be applied against Polish deliveries covered by the current trade agreement, so that Poland can continue to insist on additional Swedish iron ore in exchange for coal.

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SIGN PACT WITH BULGARIA -- Sofia, Izgrev, 25 Mar 51

On 23 March 1951, a trade agreement was signed in Warsaw between Poland and Bulgaria. The agreement was signed by Dobri Aleksiev, Bulgarian Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, and by Czeslaw Bayer, Polish Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade. Poland will export metals and chemicals, while Bulgaria will export tobacco, ores, ore concentrate, and agricultural products.

Berlin, Taegliche Rundschau, 30 Mar 51

According to the trade agreement between Poland and Bulgaria signed on 23 March 1951. Bulgaria will supply tobacco, industrial fats, sheep skins, rice, wine, and other goods. Poland will export to Bulgaria mainly metal products, chemicals, and textiles.

UPS PRICE OF COAL EXPORTS TO AUSTRIA -- Zurich, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 13 Mar 51

Between March and July 1951, Poland will supply Austria with 350,000 tons of coal from Gorny Slask, at double the former price. Payment is to be made in dollars.

In 1950, Austria imported 1,520,000 tons of coal from Poland, at a cost of 376,700,000 Austrian schillings.

CONCLUDE TRADE TREATY WITH CHINA -- Berlin, Nachrichten fuer Aussenhandel, 7 Feb 51

Under a 1951 trade agreement signed recently, Poland will supply China with industrial goods in exchange for raw materials.

A shipping agreement was also signed. It provides for the founding of a Polish-Chinese Steamship Company.

A third agreement calls for the expansion of the telegraph, telephone, and postal communication systems between the two countries.

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